

32

POL 14 VIET S
1610



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 656

PAGE 01 SAIGON 15274 230620Z

12
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 UPW-01 SAL-02 AID-20 OPR-02 SY-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSC-10 P-03
RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 NSA-02 RSR-01 /115 W
093882

SAIGON 15274
9-23-71

R 230427Z SEP 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0285
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
CFNCJXXUSDEL FRANCE 8826
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY Jan Dzulec DATE 1/26/82

RDS ☐ or XD ☐ EXT. DATE _____

TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASEABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15274
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: KY'S ACTION PLAN TO POSTPONE REFERENDUM--CONVERSATION
WITH LE VAN THAI

LE VAN THAI, VICE PRESIDENT KY'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER,
TOLD EMBOFF SEPT. 22 KY IS CARRYING OUT A THREE-PHASE ACTION
PROGRAM OF GROUP STATEMENTS, COORDINATED PLANNING AND GENERAL
OFFENSIVE TO FORCE POSTPONEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL REFEREN-
DUM. THAI CLAIMED THAT THE CAMPAIGN WILL CULMINATE IN
CLOSELY COORDINATED MASS DISTURBANCES CONDUCTED BY ALL OPPO-
SITION ELEMENTS, WILL COMMENCE BETWEEN SEPT. 25 AND
OCTOBER 1 AND WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE COMMON SLOGAN:
"DOWN WITH THIEU'S DICTATORSHIP". THE CAMPAIGN'S OBJECTIVE
ALLEGEDLY IS REORGANIZATION OF THE ELECTIONS BY SENATE CHAIR-
MAN HUYEN. THAI ALSO CLAIMED THAT ON SEPT. 18 GENERAL MINH
AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO JOINT PROTEST ACTION, PREDICTED A STRONGLY
WORDED COMMUNIQUE FROM MINH IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS AND ALLEGED

THAT DESPITE A "DEAL BETWEEN THIEU AND THICH THIEN
MINH" THE AN QUANG BUDDHISTS WOULD MOUNT A SIMULTANEOUS

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

031300000000



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 15274 230620Z

STRUGGLE MOVEMENT.

2. THAI ALSO STATED HOWEVER THAT NEITHER KY NOR ARMY WISH

A COUP D'ETAT BUT THAT THE WORRIED GENERALS MIGHT ADVISE THIEU TO POSTPONE THE ELECTIONS IF DISTURBANCES SNOWBALLED INTO A MAJOR CONFRONTATION.

3. THAI FURTHER ALLEGED THAT KY INTERPRETS PRESIDENT NIXON'S SEPT. 16 STATEMENT AS IMPLYING US WOULD ACCEPT THIEU'S DOWNFALL IF BROUGHT ABOUT BY "POPULAR ACTION" AND PROVIDED THAT IT FOLLOWS PRESIDENT'S FORTHCOMING PEKING VISIT WHICH HE EXPECTS

END SEPTEMBER, EARLY OCTOBER (SIC).

4. COMMENT: THAI'S REMARKS ARE CHARACTERISTICALLY SELF-SERVING AND SHOULD BE TREATED WITH USUAL SKEPTICISM.
BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

0313507030